

Remarks**I. Restriction Requirement and Election of Species**

In the above referenced Office Action, the Examiner divided the claims into the following groups:

Group I. Claims 1-12 drawn to an array, classified in class 435, subclass 287.2;

Group II. Claims 13-17 drawn to a method of using a lipid-patch array to detect membrane-bound biomolecular interactions, classified in class 436, subclass 501; and

Group III. Claims 19-20, drawn to a method of manipulating lipid-bilayer regions on a substrate, classified in class 422, subclass 50.

In response, Applicants elect to begin prosecution with examination of claim Group I, claims 1-12, without traverse. Non-elected claims 13-17 are withdrawn and claims 19-20 are cancelled.

Applicants reserve the right to file divisional applications directed to the non-elected claims of Groups II and III.

Inventions I and II are related as apparatus and process of use. Where claims elected are directed to the apparatus and an apparatus claim is subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the apparatus claims will be rejoined in accordance with the provisions of MPEP §821.04.

For Group I, restriction to a single species of lipid is also required. Accordingly, Applicants elect phosphatidylcholine as the species. Upon allowance of the generic claims, Applicants request consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or which otherwise include all the limitations of the allowed generic claim(s) as provided by 37 C.F.R. §1.141.

It is Applicant's understanding that remaining pending claims 1-12 and 18 read on the elected species. Upon allowance of the generic claims, Applicants request consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or which otherwise include all the limitations of the allowed generic claim(s) as provided by 37 C.F.R. §1.141.

Applicants note that claim 18 was not included in the groups set forth by the Examiner. Clarification as to the status of claim 18 is respectfully requested.

II. Amendments

Non-elected claims 13-17 are withdrawn

Non-elected claims 19-20 are cancelled.

Claim 12 is amended to remove reference to non-elected species.

Withdrawn claim 21 is added to reference the non-elected species of claim 12.

No new matter is added by way of these amendments.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (650) 838-4410.

Respectfully submitted,



Jacqueline F. Mahoney
Registration No. 48,390

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Correspondence Address:
Customer No. 22918